



## Louisville Metro Supervised Visitation & Exchange Center

By Kathryn Tillet, Outreach Specialist

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Chris Owens  
Director

November is [Diabetes Awareness Month](#). The good news: This chronic illness can be managed.

The not-so-good news: Louisville Metro [Dept of Public Health & Wellness reports](#) diabetes ranks 7th or higher for hospitalizations and as a cause of death in Jefferson County which has a diabetes mortality rate for African Americans/Blacks about triple the rate for whites.

Kentucky is considered part of the "Diabetes Belt"!

The American Medical Association says: [In Kentucky, the CDC estimates 40.1% of Kentuckians ages 40-74 have pre-diabetes and 1/3 of diabetes cases are undiagnosed.](#)

### What you can do:

- ◆ [Be aware](#)
- ◆ [Determine Your Risk](#)
- ◆ Get tested
- ◆ Develop Healthy Habits
- ◆ Know [diabetes is more than "a sugar problem"](#)

As community service providers and consumers begin recovering from the recent federal shutdown, we're reminded of the infinite ways all Americans' lives are touched by federally funded programs. Fortunately, the shutdown ended before services at Louisville Metro Visitation and Exchange Center were greatly affected, but the disruption did strengthen our commitment to strategic planning for sustainability in the event that we don't receive a federal grant in 2015.

Our planning efforts have now been fully underway for several months and have already resulted in the completion of a number of objectives, such as development of a Facebook page with program information, news about LMVEC and our collaborative partners, and various parent resources. Meanwhile, we continue reaching out to key stakeholders to support us in this endeavor with their expertise and creative thinking.

Another critical piece of our strategic planning work draws upon the feedback from LMVEC parents through semi-annual surveys. October was survey month, and we'd like to give a huge "thank you" to staff at Home of the Innocents and Family and Children's Place for their assistance in making sure each parent who wished to do so had an opportunity to share their thoughts. Their support resulted in the participation of over 25% of our 296 parents.

Some of the 296 were not surveyed due to their newness in the program and lack of experience with LMVEC services – we hope to hear from them next time! Upon analyzing survey responses, we were pleased to find we obtained feedback from a nearly equal proportion of residential and non-residential parents, and that parents are typically satisfied with LMVEC services.

Most importantly, 91% of residential parents indicated there had been no acts of domestic violence between themselves and the other parent since they began using LMVEC. Two residential parents responded that they felt their child's concerns about

safety had increased during this period, and only one residential parent indicated increased concerns for his or her own safety.

Initial results from an ongoing Emergency Protective Order (EPO) data collection project run by the Office for Women, the Circuit Court Clerk's Office, and the Domestic Violence Intake Center, give a sense of how many people in the Louisville area might benefit from the protection provided by LMVEC services.

So far, data has been collected from 1128 of the 4,000-5,000 EPOs requested annually. Of these, 61% of petitioners stated there were children in the residence, and 93% of petitioners with children stated that they feared for the safety of the children. This information, along with other data from the project will help inform our strategic planning process so we can best address community needs.

**The Visitation Center at Family Place** provides supervised visits in a safe, nurturing environment for children to visit with their nonresidential parent — some exchanges can be provided. Located in a residential area of Louisville, the Visitation Center includes child-friendly visitation rooms and outdoor fenced play areas.

**The Safe Exchange Center at Home of the Innocents** provides a safe place for the exchange of children between parents for unsupervised visitation — some supervised visits are provided.

To request more information contact:  
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You may email the program contacts at [OFW@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:OFW@louisvilleky.gov) or FAX 502.574.6888

The **Louisville Metro Office for Women (OFW)** uses policy and advocacy to improve the status of women in the Louisville Metro area. OFW is a Policy, Advocacy & Community Outreach office within the Louisville Metro Department of Community Services and Revitalization. OFW Committee involvement examines women's needs, system responses and assists in development of recommendations. The Office serves as an information and resource hub, maximizing resources through community education & partnerships, communication, collaboration, interns/volunteers and technology.



**You or someone you know looking for help or seeking services?**

Free Resource Numbers in Jefferson County:

**8 am—5 pm Mon-Fri**

Department of  
Community Services &  
Revitalization

Central Intake:  
574-4377

**24 Hours/Every Day**

Emergency: Dial 9-1-1

MetroCall: Dial 3-1-1

Helpline (referrals):  
Dial 2-1-1

Center for Women &  
Families (Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault)  
Hotline:  
581-7222

Domestic Violence  
Intake Center  
(Emergency Protection Orders):  
595-0853



## What is PEACC?

*By Josie Timmons, OFW Intern*

Through my internship with the OFW, I have had the opportunity to conduct interviews with some amazing women leaders in our community.

Recently, I had the pleasure of interviewing Sharon LaRue, who is the Executive Director of the [PEACC](#) organization on U of L's campus. If you have not heard of PEACC, I'm sure you have heard of Take Back the Night. As I wrote in a previous article, I try to attend Take Back the Night every year.

However, I was unaware of the many other ways in which PEACC works to end violence on our campus and in our community, so the interview was very insightful. In this article, I will discuss a very general overview of the PEACC organization and the work they do.

PEACC was established in 1999, the University of Louisville was one of the first Universities in the U.S. to receive a grant that came out of the Violence Against Women Act. The purpose of the funds, were to establish an organization which focused on addressing issues of violence. The main focus of PEACC is on advocacy and prevention education.

Sharon has been acting as the Executive Director for 11 years now. She is a licensed therapist, with a background in art therapy. The main focus of her job is to work on projects pertaining to prevention education.

In terms of advocacy, PEACC runs a 24/7 crisis Hotline for University of Louisville students who may need assistance with domestic, dating or sexual violence, as well as stalking and harassment. PEACC also provides one-on-one sessions between students and staff, where they can discuss options and resources.

Another large focus of the organization is on prevention education. This is done through the [Green Dot](#) program used for by-stander intervention training, as well as peer education classes. Sharon also discussed a goal for the near future, involving an interactive online educational module, which would educate students about issues of sexual assault, dating violence and other forms of violence, and would also offer resources.

Having an organization on campus that students can turn to during times of crisis, is such a necessity. PEACC offers valuable services and resources to the student population and engages students, by encouraging them to take a stand against violence.

I would like to take a moment to thank Sharon and the rest of the staff at PEACC, as well as the many student employees and volunteers who work so hard to make a difference on our campus. Now that I am aware of the training programs offered by PEACC, I plan on taking advantage of these educational opportunities, and learning new strategies that I can use to actively combat issues of violence.

### [Take Back The Night](#) [from UofL's Student News]

Tuesday, September 24th outside Red Barn U of L students, faculty, staff and organizations from the Louisville community gathered for this annual rally and speak out against the injustice of interpersonal violence. This year's theme: The Power to Hear! The Power to Speak! The Power to Act!

Among other speakers we welcomed Congressman Yarmuth and keynote speaker Susan Burke. Ms. Burke is working to reform the manner in which the military prosecutes rape and sexual assault and is featured in the documentary, The Invisible War.

### Disclaimer:

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